(vi) Maintenance facilities for coache and wagons have been modernised and upgraded at many depots.

(vii) To prevent cases of cold breakage of axles, maintenance depots have been equipped with ultrasonic testing equipment for detection of flaws in the axles.

(viii) Whistle boards speed breakers and road signs have been provided at unmanned level crossings and visibility for drivers has been improved.

(ix) Audio-visual publicity campaigns to educate road users on how to make a safe crossing are conducted.

(x) Steps have been taken to prevent inflammable and explosive materials from being carried in passenger trains.

(xi) Training facilities for drivers, guards and staff connected with train operation have been modernised including use of Simulators for training of drivers.

(xii) Refresher courses are regularly organised at specified intervals.

(xiii) performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for crash training.

(xiv) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff.

(c) and (d) Immediately after the accident ex-gratia amounting to Rs. 15,000/- in case of death. Rs. 5,000/- in case of injury and Rs. 500 in case of simple injury is given to the victims to take care of their immediate needs. Compensation claim is paid soon after the claims are decreed by Railway Claims Tribunal.

The amount of compensation paid during the years 1996-97 and 1997-98 is as under:—

Year	Amount of compensation paid
1996-97	(amount in lakhs 709.31
1997-98	240.89

Note: The claim cases arising out of accidents are mostly not decided in the same year. Therefor, the amount paid may not be for the accident taken place in the same year.

Shuttle service between Godhra-Surat-Godhra

2309. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Miniser of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to start shuttle service between Godhra-Surat-Godhra is under consideration of Government; and

(b) if os, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Tatkal reservation facility

2310. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Miniser of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tatkal Reservation facility for all the classes has been provided in some trains leaving Delhi and other places;

(b) if so, the names of such trains with formalities and charges prescribed at each place to avail this facility;